

# Safety Tips

## Safety Tips

### Safe Pedestrian Habits

1. Walk with a buddy as often as possible
2. Don't talk or accept rides from strangers
3. Look in all directions for cars, mopeds, bicyclists and other pedestrians before crossing the street.
4. Always stand on the curb, not in the street, while waiting to cross the street.
5. Always use a crosswalk when one is available and always cross at an intersection.
6. Remember, painted lines do not force drivers to stop; try and make eye contact with an oncoming driver before crossing.
7. Always watch for turning vehicles.
8. Never cross the street from between parked cars. Oncoming traffic may not see you in time to react.

### Crosswalks with Crossing Guards

1. Obey directions from the Crossing Guard
2. Walk quickly without running across the street.
3. Be alert- drivers sometimes fail to see and obey the Crossing Guard stop signs.
4. Walk your bicycle and carry your skateboard across the street.

### Safe Riding Habits

1. Always buckle your seat belt while in a moving car.
2. Be mindful of the noise you make while in the car; it can be very distracting to the driver.
3. Be sure to have all your belongings in hand when exiting the car. Be especially careful not to get anything caught in the door when closing it.
4. Exit from the right hand side of the car or where the sidewalk is located.
5. Always look both ways as you walk away from the vehicle and if needed, cross in front of your vehicle, not behind it.



### Safe Bicycling Habits

1. Always wear a bicycle helmet- it's the law!
2. Obey all traffic laws, signs and signals- always use proper hand signals.
3. Keep your bicycle in good mechanical condition (tires, chain, brakes, etc.)
4. Ride with traffic flow, not against it.
5. Children 12 and under may ride safely on sidewalks
6. Be sure the road is clear before entering & scan the road around you.
7. Always ride single file and watch for opening car doors.
8. Bicycles are built to carry one person- YOU!
9. Avoid busy intersections, check your suggested routes map for a different route.
10. Avoid and stop for pedestrians especially when riding on the sidewalk.

### Bicycle Helmet Safety Tips:

When you bike, remember helmets are the law! Always wear a helmet with the strap fastened when you ride. Be sure the helmet fits properly. It should fit snugly on your head and rest securely on your forehead.

To make sure the helmet is strapped correctly:

1. Pull it forward from back to front. If it hits the bridge of the nose, it's too loose.
2. Push it from front to back. If the forehead shows, it's too loose.
3. Adjust the "V" strap surrounding the ear. The "V" of the strap should come just below the earlobe.

### PARENTS:

Review these safety tips and the suggested routes on the map with your child. We also recommend you occasionally walk the route with your child so that you are aware of the route your child is taking.

For more information on the Suggested Routes to School Program, you may contact your school or the following City of Milpitas Staff:

Police D.A.R.E. Officers 586-2525

Assistant Transportation Planner 586-3291

